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| Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital Procedure |
| Securing the Scene |
| Revised: X |
| Date: 04/07/14 |

1. The Nursing Supervisor or designee shall assign an RN to secure the scene of the unexpected death or crime requiring investigation and follow-up. "Securing the scene" means preventing anyone from entering the secured area, so that the room/area and its contents remain unchanged, until it is released by the State's Attorney, Medical Examiner or law enforcement. If possible, the room/area shall be locked.
2. The Nursing Supervisor shall ensure the patient's chart is secured in Medical Records/ Admissions to prevent any alterations or changes. Any progress notes written after the event will be sent to medical records.
3. To the extent possible, persons present at a death shall be separated from each other until such time that they are interviewed by law enforcement.
4. The Nursing Supervisor shall ensure that an event report is made in the Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital event reporting system.

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| Approved by VPCH Policy Committee | Approval Date: April 7, 2014 |
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